

Maine Board of Corrections – Report Ad-Hoc Committee

Recommendations following the review of:
Corrections Alternatives Advisory Committee (CAAC) December 2006
RHR Smith- BOC Financial Assessment Report (RHR) June 2012
National Institute of Corrections – BOC Technical Assistance Report (NIC) June 2012

Group 1: Recommendations Specific to BOC Structure, Authority, Policy Etc. (BOC Responsibilities and Duties #5 - Admin. Duties)

The committee recommends the Board conduct an assessment of the needs of the coordinated system as soon as possible. Further, the needs assessment should be done in conjunction with a strategic plan which sets the Board on a course to achieve its goals and objectives. Future decisions regarding the coordinated system should be made in balance with system needs and the Boards strategic plan. The recommendations listed below are considered a priority by the committee and are presented in no particular order. Each recommendation is referenced by page and row as they appear in the "Report Recommendation Analysis" used by the committee which in turn will direct the Board to the originating document.

The committee strongly recommends the Board implement the recommendations, shown below, by immediately assigning these tasks to the Corrections Working Group, a focus group, or a specialized ad-hoc committee such as this to ensure completion. The committee feels this work should happen simultaneously with the other important matters the Board is currently focused on. Completion will place the Board in a stronger position to express the needs of the system and to demonstrate accomplishment of the Boards goals and objectives to the legislature.

Needs Assessment Recommendations:
6. NIC Rec. C-11; CAAC Rec. 6; CAAC Goals # 2 page 8 row 23: The Board should develop a long term master plan for a balanced and coordinated jail system.
7. NIC Rec. A-12 page 2 row 5: Establish a five year strategic plan with annual priorities....
8. NIC Rec. B-1 page 2 row 4: Develop a plan to implement the recommendations of the CAAC report.
9. NIC Rec. A-13 page 4 row 12; CAAC Rec. 5 page 9 row 25: Develop and implement a dashboard and/or performance measurement plan....to monitor progress and to help stay on task.
10. RHR Fin. Rec. 11 page 6 row 19: Plans should include long term and short term capital needs...

There are several recommendations in the CAAC, NIC, and RHR reports that fall into items that must be considered when formulating a strategic plan and while conducting a system wide assessment of needs. These recommendations are included on page 3 of this report.

Committee Members: Sheriff Todd Brackett, Chair; Sheriff Scott Story; Marsha Alexander, J. A.; John Hinkley, J.A.; David Allen, J.A.; Peter Crichton, C.M.; Stuart Smith, BOC; and Michael Tausek, BOC E.D.

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The following recommendations are provided in no particular order, however the committee feels each are components that should be carefully considered as the Board conducts a needs assessment of the coordinated system.

Recommendations to be considered in conjunction with needs assessment :
11. CAAC Rec. 19 page 8 row 24: Set state guidelines for data collection to ensure best practices and dollars are being spent efficiently.
12. NIC Rec. C-9 page 8 row 24: Establish a mechanism for the monitoring of inmate displacement throughout the system...
13. CAAC Rec. 5 page 9 row 25: Require CCA funded programs to include accountability outcomes....
14. CAAC Rec. 6 page 9 row 25: Establish local Community Corrections Planning Boards....
15. CAAC Rec. Inmate Transportation page 9 row 26: Decrease transportation costs while improving efficiency.....
16. CAAC Use of Technology page 9 row 26: Enhance capacity to manage system performance through IT.....
17. CAAC Pharmacy/Medical Care page 9 row 26: Establish mutually agreed to policies and practices for ordering and managing pharmaceuticals and medical care.....
18. NIC Rec. B-4 page 10 row 27: Expand programs for special populations including mentally ill and substance abusers.....
19. NIC Rec. C-1 page 10 row 29: The Board should secure an independent assessment of the rated capacity of each facility....
20. NIC Rec. C-2 page 10 row 29: The Board should implement practices to evaluate jail crowding using functional capacity....
21. NIC Rec. C-5 page 11 row 30: The Board should secure an independent review of jail staffing plans.....and establish a mechanism for monitoring actual staff deployment in jails...
22. NIC Rec. B-5 9 page 11 row 31: Increase statewide capacity for pretrial services....
23. NIC Rec. B-2 page 13 row 37: Undertake a review of women in jails. Typically women are lower risk and can be supervised in the community....
24. NIC Rec. C-10 page 14 row 39: The Board should explore the feasibility of allowing Franklin, Oxford, and Waldo counties to house their lowest security inmates in current facilities....
25. CAAC Rec. 5 page 13 row 36: Explore further guidelines for sanctions and treatment of probation violators....
26. CAAC Rec. 8 page 13 row 37: Increase the use of adult drug courts as a sentencing alternative....consider similar options such as veterans court etc...

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